

III. REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Office for indicating that claims 24-38 are allowable.

Explanations of the Applicant's amendments to the specification, drawings, and claims are set forth below.

A. Explanation of Applicant's Amendments to the Specification and Drawings

Applicant has amended the drawings to overcome the Examiner's objections and Applicant has amended the specification to describe the amended drawings. In particular, the Examiner objected to the drawings because: (1) "there is no play button corresponding to, paragraphs [0045 - 0046], a button which will cause playback at the scheduled time, even though recording started prior to" and (2) "the counter indicating time base which elapses from the scheduled, rather than the beginning, also the claims directed toward negative time, are...not disclosed in the drawings." (Office Action, pp. 2-3) In response, Applicant has added Figures 7, 8, 9, and 10.

New Figure 7 shows method 700 which illustrates one embodiment of the present invention. The embodiment shown in New Figure 7 is described generally throughout the specification as previously filed, including paragraphs [0045] and [0046]. Applicant has amended paragraphs [0045] and [0046] to indicate those portions of the previously filed specification which correspond to New Figure 7. Applicant submits that New Figure 7 and the corresponding amendments to paragraphs [0045] and [0046] are sufficient to overcome Examiner's objection that the drawings fail to disclose the play menu choices described in paragraphs [0045] and [0046].

New Figure 8 shows method 800 which illustrates one embodiment of the present invention. The embodiment shown in New Figure 8 corresponds to newly amended claim 1 and is described generally throughout the specification as previously filed, including, original claim 1 and paragraphs [0045 - 0046].

New Figure 9 shows method 900 which illustrates another embodiment of the present invention. The embodiment shown in New Figure 9 corresponds to previously presented independent claim 24. Previously presented independent claim 24 contains the limitations of original independent claim 1 in addition to the limitations of original dependent claims 4 and 5. These elements are supported generally throughout the specification, including original claims 1, 4 and 5 and paragraphs [0007], [0010 - 0012], and [0044 - 0052]. Applicant submits that New Figure 9 and the corresponding paragraphs added to the specification between paragraphs [0052] and [0053] are sufficient to overcome Examiner's objection that the drawings fail to show the counter feature recited in the claims 24, 29, and 35.

New Figure 10 shows method 1000 which illustrates yet another embodiment of the present invention. The embodiment shown in New Figure 10 corresponds to previously presented independent claim 24 and previously presented dependent claim 27. Previously presented independent claim 24 contains the limitations of original independent claim 1 in addition to the limitations of original dependent claims 4 and 5. Previously presented dependent claim 27 contains the limitations of original dependent claim 6. These elements are supported generally throughout the specification, including original claims 1, 4, 5, and 6 and paragraphs [0007], [0010 - 0012], and [0044 - 0052]. Applicant submits that New Figure 10 and the corresponding paragraphs added to the specification between paragraphs [0052] and [0053] are sufficient to overcome Examiner's objection that the drawings fail to show the counter feature recited in the claims 24, 29, and 35.

B. Applicants' Response to Examiners Rejection of Claims 1-23

In response to Applicant's amendments filed on August 7, 2006, the Examiner issued the October 23, 2006 Office Action, requesting that Applicant "amend more clearly or in accord to the specification." (October 23, 2006 Office Action, p. 2) In response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, and 17 to clarify the claim language, i.e. to state the claim language "more clearly" and "in accord to the specification" as directed by the Examiner.

The subject matter of newly amended claims 1, 8, and 17 is explained generally throughout the specification and more particularly in paragraphs such as [0045-0047]. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 8, and 17 are allowable. Claims 2-7, 9-16, and 18-23 depend from claims 1, 8, and 17, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 2-7, 9-16, and 18-23 are allowable for at least the reason that they depend from an allowable base claim

Conclusion

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is hereby requested. Should the Examiner feel that further dialog would advance the subject application to issuance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (312) 913-3305.

Respectfully submitted,
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